



**The Wisconsin  
Department of Natural  
Resources Gypsy Moth  
Suppression Program**

- Conducts aerial spraying at the request of landowners and communities, to reduce high gypsy moth populations so that they do not cause heavy tree defoliation
- Administers federal cost sharing funds for aerial spray treatments as available
- Provides technical information about the gypsy moth
- Introduces natural enemies, such as wasps and fungi, to help reduce gypsy moth populations

**Benefits to landowners  
and communities**

- Provides community governments and landowners with access to aerial spraying
- Reduces costs for participants by combining treatments into one spray contract
- Applies, on behalf of participants, for up to 50% reimbursement of the cost of spraying and preparatory administrative costs as available from the federal government

**DNR suppression  
program**

Suppression spraying was first conducted in 2001 in Appleton and Brookfield. Spray program information for the current year, including maps of the proposed spray sites, will be available online starting in early February at the website below. Information is also available by phone or by emailing [dnrfgypsymoth@wisconsin.gov](mailto:dnrfgypsymoth@wisconsin.gov).

**Treatment method**

A single aerial application of the microbial insecticide Foray, containing the bacterium, *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki*, (Btk). Gypchek, a viral insecticide specific to gypsy moth caterpillars, will be applied where endangered or threatened moths or butterflies are present or are likely present.

**Timing of treatment**

It is weather dependent, but generally starts by middle to late May in southern Wisconsin; later further north. Caterpillars are targeted when they are less than ½ inch long and when leaves on host trees are less than half size.

**Requirements of  
2009 treatment blocks**

- At least 25% of the ground is covered by trees, and at least 50% of the trees present are preferred hosts (such as oak, aspen, and birch)
- At least 20 acres in size
- At least 500 gypsy moth egg masses per acre in residential areas

**If I live in a proposed  
treatment block, do I  
have to be sprayed?**

No, the DNR gypsy moth suppression program is voluntary. Anyone residing in a proposed spray block can request to have their property and a buffer zone excluded from treatment if an objection is filed prior to the county deadline.

**For additional help, call 1-800-642-MOTH  
or visit Wisconsin Gypsy Moth on the Web at <http://gypsymoth.wi.gov>**